GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1131
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2016
Annual Spending on Diabetes
Khuba Shri Bhagwanth

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual spending of our country on diabetes is Rs. 1.5 lakh crore and it raises 30% per annum, which is five times the budgetary allocations on health sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to implement a pilot project or awareness programme among the people of both urban and rural areas, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Insulin used in India is mostly imported and unaffordable by the common man; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to make available low-cost insulin in the country?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

(a) to (e) : As per an article published in the newspaper, the annual spending of India on diabetes treatment is Rs.1.5 lakh crore, rising by 30% per annum and is 4.7 times the centres allocations on health sector. However, as reported by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), it is difficult to put a figure on annual spending of our country on Diabetes. ICMR also reported that one research paper suggested that estimated cost of Diabetes care in India would be approximately 18,000 crores.

Department of Pharmaceuticals has informed that as per Pharmatrac database of May, 2016 available with National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), total Moving Annual Turnover (MAT) value of all pharmaceutical Stock Keeping Units (SKUs) is R.99475.9 crores, out of which MAT value of anti-diabetic medicines is Rs.8198.8 crores.

While Health is a State subject, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, the Government of India has launched National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) for interventions up to District level under the National Health Mission. NPCDCS has focus on awareness generation for behaviour and life-style changes, screening and early diagnosis of persons with high level of risk factors and their referral to higher facilities for appropriate management. Operational Guidelines for implementing population level screening for diabetes, hypertension & common cancer viz. oral, breast and cervix have been released to the State Governments. These guidelines include screening for risk factors of these diseases. Such screening will generate awareness on risk factors of Diabetes among others.

ICMR has reported that Insulin in India is supplied by both multinational firms and domestic firms. Several Indian Firms manufacture insulin in India and this is made available to patients. The cost of conventional insulins in India remains one of the cheapest anywhere in the world and a few State Governments have also provisions to supply it free of cost to insulin requiring individuals. Newer insulin analogous are more expensive and are mainly manufactured and marketed by multinational firms.

As reported by Department of Pharmaceuticals, Form III of Schedule II of DPCO, 2013 captures information regarding production or import of scheduled formulations. It does not ask for segregated data on domestic production and import data.

National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) contains medicines for the treatment of common NCDs including diabetes. As per National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority three Insulin Injections in the strength of 40IU / ml viz., Insulin Injection (Soluble), Intermediate Acting (Lente/NPH Insulin) and Premix insulin 30:70 Injection are included in the schedule-I of the Drugs Price Control Order(DPCO), 2013 and are under price control. The ceiling price under DPCO 2013 is applicable to scheduled imported formulations also. Most public health facilities in the country provide those anti-diabetic medicines that are included in the NLEM free.